

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended). ~~An apparatus for use with a dispenser comprising:~~ For use with a hand manipulable, flowable, edible and spreadable material dispenser, the combination comprising:

- a) ~~a dispensing nozzle integrally attached to a fitting, the nozzle having an elongated opening and the fitting having a threaded inner surface for engaging a threaded outer surface of the dispenser~~ a dispensing nozzle associated with the dispenser to dispense said material,
- b) and a spreader surface associated with the nozzle whereby the dispenser may be manipulated to cause the spreader surface to spread edible material dispensed via the nozzle, and
- c) ~~a cap secured by snap ring retention to entirely cover the nozzle~~ said surface having the form of a spreader shelf carried by the dispenser and projecting forwardly, relative to the nozzle, the shelf connected to the dispenser. [.]
- d) the nozzle defining an outlet, the outlet and shelf having lateral widths substantially in excess of three times the thickness of the outlet, whereby as

said material is dispensed forwardly through the aperture  
and over the shelf it becomes spread over the width of  
the shelf and beyond the shelf for spreading as a wide  
layer deposited on an edible,

e) and protective structure extending crosswise of  
the nozzle in forwardly spaced proximate relation to the  
outlet and extending across the entire width of the  
outlet, said structure carried by the dispenser to  
project in the direction of the shelf and above the level  
of the shelf during said layer depositing.

Claim 2 (original). The combination of claim 1 wherein  
the spreader surface has the form of a blade or spatula  
surface characterized by one the following:

- i) on a cap attached to the dispenser
- ii) attached to the dispenser
- iii) located proximate the nozzle exit.

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Claim 3 (original). The combination of claim 2 wherein the spreader surface is characterized by use of one of the following:

- i) proximate the nozzle
- ii) at the nozzle
- iii) carried by the nozzle
- iv) curved.

Claim 4 (original). The combination of claim 1 wherein the spreader has the form of a flap or blade, located at a nozzle outlet from which the material is dispensed, the flap or blade being one of the following:

- i) stiff
- ii) flexible.

Claim 5 (currently amended). The combination of claim 1 including said dispenser carrying the nozzle, and inserting dispensable edible material in the dispenser to be spread by the spreader.

Claim 6 (original). The combination of claim 3 wherein the nozzle is flexible.

Claim 7 (cancelled).

Claim 8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (currently amended). The combination of claim 1 wherein the spreader has a serrated edge proximate the nozzle to engage the dispensed ~~and layered~~ material[.], that extends in a layer.

Claim 10 (currently amended). The combination of claim 1 wherein the spreader has a serrated edge, proximate the nozzle to produce a striated surface configuration on dispensed material.

Claim 11 (currently amended). The combination of claim 10 wherein the nozzle has an elongated serrated edge at the nozzle outlet.

Claim 12 (original). The combination of claim 11 wherein the spreader overlies at least part of the nozzle serrated edge.

Claim 13 (currently amended)). The combination of claim 1, including the spreader having an adjuster on the nozzle to adjust the positioning of ~~the~~ a spreader surface flap, relative to the nozzle exit.

Claim 14 (original). The combination of claim 13 wherein the adjuster has a protrusion that is finger engagable, sidewardly of the nozzle.

Claim 15 (currently amended). The combination of claim 1 wherein the spreader has a body that is angled relative to the nozzle so as not to engage the layered spread material as the material is dispensed through the nozzle.

Claim 16 (currently amended). The combination of claim 15 wherein the spreader has a terminal, and is angled relative to the nozzle so that the spreader terminal can engage the layered spread material while the nozzle remains spaced above the level of that material.

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Claim 17 (original). The combination of claim 1 wherein the spreader tapers toward a flexible tip, the spreader having a body of sufficient thickness so as to be manipulable without flexing.

Claim 18 (original). The method of use of the combination of claim 1, characterized by one of the following:

- i) spreading the dispensed material
- ii) squeezing the dispenser, and also spreading the dispensed material.

Claim 19 (cancelled).

Claim 20 (previously presented). The combination of claim 1 wherein the cap has an interior configuration to conform to the nozzle and a nozzle outlet and to the spreader surface.

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Claim 21 (currently amended). The combination of claim 1 wherein the spreader has a surface has with

- $x_1$  curvature to conform to an edible curved surface, or
- $x_2$  shallow lateral curvature.

Claim 22 (new). The combination of claim 1 wherein the nozzle has attachment to the dispenser.

Claim 23 (new). The combination of claim 1 wherein the nozzle has threaded attachment to the dispenser.

Claim 24 (new). The combination of claim 1 wherein the spreader has a body and a cap fitting endwise on the body to project over the nozzle.

Claim 25 (new). The combination of claim 24 wherein the cap has an interior configuration conforming to the nozzle and to the nozzle outlet.

Claim 26 (new). The combination of claim 1 including said material spread as a wide layer on a wide edible, proximate said nozzle outlet.

Claim 27 (new). In combination with a hand manipulable, flowable, edible and spreadable material dispenser,

- a) a dispensing nozzle associated with the dispenser to dispense said material,
- b) and a spreader surface associated with the nozzle whereby the dispenser may be manipulated to cause the spreader surface to spread material dispensed via the nozzle,
- c) said surface having the form of a spreader shelf carried by the dispenser and projecting forwardly, relative to the nozzle, the shelf connected to the dispenser,
- d) the nozzle defining an outlet, the outlet and shelf having lateral widths substantially in excess of three times the thickness of the outlet, whereby as said material is dispensed forwardly through the aperture and over the shelf it becomes spread over the width of the shelf and beyond the shelf for spreading as a wide layer deposited on an edible.